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FROM THE SENATE INTERNAL SECURITY SUBCOMMITTEE

WASHINGTON, D. C.--The Senate Internal Security Subcommittee today released testimony relating to the situation in Ghana, given in staff conference by Messrs. K. A. Akwawuah and W. K. Biddier, President and Secretary of the Ghana Student Association of the Americas.

In an introduction to the testimony, Senator Thomas J. Dodd (D-Conn.) Vice Chairman of the Subcommittee said that "The events of recent weeks have compelled many people to do some rethinking on the subject of Ghana." Senator Dodd's introduction contained a summary of the central points of the testimony and documents presented to the Committee by the two Ghanaian student leaders. (The summary appears on page v). The summary made this point in conclusion: The United States Department of State has defended aid to Nkrumah's government on the ground that it is an act of friendship toward the Ghanaians who are trying to liberate themselves from Nkrumah. On the contrary, the students believe, that to give money to Nkrumah is an act of unfriendliness toward the people, since it helps to solidify his tyranny over them.

Senator Dodd pointed out that there had been much criticism last July when the Subcommittee published the testimony of Dr. K. A. Busia, most prominent of the Ghanaian opposition leaders in exile. Commenting on Dr. Busia's testimony, Senator Dodd had characterized Ghana as "The first Soviet satellite in Africa," and said that it had become the focal point for the subversion in Africa, just as Cuba is the focal point for the subversion of the Americas.

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"For these statements," said Senator Dodd, "I was severely criticized by some editors. The Detroit News, in an editorial delicately entitled, "He Should Shut Up," declared: "It would help if Dodd stopped publicizing his Red witch-doctor hunting." The New York Times advised its readers that "Such wild statements are, in fact, calculated to drive any African leader toward Moscow."

The United States Department of State, in its own indirect manner, also disagreed. In a familiarly anonymous statement by a "Departmental spokesman," it asserted: "Ghana follows a policy which it describes as one of positive neutralism. . .Ghana has not aligned itself with either (East or West) grouping. . .Ghana has a mixed economy in which private capital is active and foreign investment welcomed."

In reply to these criticisms of six months ago, Senator Dodd pointed out that the New York Times of Jan. 8, 1964, had run a page-one article captioned "Ghana is going Marxist." "Diplomats in Accra, the capital of Ghana," said the article, "have concluded almost unanimously that the country is rapidly becoming an undisguised Marxist state."

Senator Dodd said that he welcomed the evidence that the State Department is at last beginning to face up to facts which it has heretofore refused to face up to. He pointed out that as recently as several weeks ago the Government Printing Office had been selling two publications on Ghana, prepared by the Department of State, which described Ghana as a "republic" which engages in "steadily increasing ties of friendship" with the United States of America. He stated that these pamphlets tend to denigrate the Ghanaian oppositionists, and he quoted this statement as an example:

"The opposition (to Nkrumah)," say these official State Department publications, "has been less eager than the government to reform traditional institutions. Its followers object. . . to the measures granted by the Assembly to promote the establishment of national authority and public security throughout the country."

Senator Dodd stated that "On the basis of such gross misrepresentation in documents published by the Department of State, it becomes difficult to doubt Mr. Akwawuah's statement that 'There are some people in the State Department who have sympathy for Nkrumah.'" He said that he had asked the Subcommittee on Internal Security to look into the origins of these official State Department publications.